

British Forum for Ethnomusicology

AGM, Falmouth, 9 April 2011

MINUTES

- 1. Apologies:** Katherine Schofield (KS), Ruth Hellier-Tinoco (RHT), David Wong (DW)

Present: Caroline Bitheel (CB) – Chair, Hwee-San Tan (HST), Stephen Cottrell (SC), Simone Krüger (SK), Tom Wagner (TWg), Trevor Wiggins (TW), Laudan Nooshin (LN), Angela Impey (AI), Martin Stokes (MS), Britta Sweers (BS), Christine Dettmann (CD), Ian Foreman (IF), Matthew Machin (MM), Cassandre Balono-Baudin (CBB), James Butterworth (JB), Carolyn Landau (CL), Simon Mills (SM), Byron Dueck (BD), Kiku Day (KD), Muriel Swijghuisen Reigersberg (MSR), Amanda Villepastour (AV), Charlotte Vignan (CV), Armani C. Shepherd (ACS), David Bridge (DB), Anna Stirr (AS), Tom Solomon (TS), Joe Browning (JB), Chloe Zadeh (CZ), Ruard Absaroka (RA), Jyoshna La Trobe (JLT), Jürgen Schöpf (JS), Minutes: Emma Andersson (EA)

- 2. Approval of minutes of last meeting, Oxford, 10 April 2010**

The minutes were approved.

- 3. Matters arising**

No matters raised at this point; possibility of revisiting outstanding issues at the end of meeting under AOB.

- 4. Chair's report**

CB highlighted the exciting last year of the BFE and the organisation moving forward. Noted the success of the last two conferences, Liverpool and Oxford, in terms of attendance numbers, and continued by expressing thanks to TW for the current conference.

CB also noted the BFE strengthening their links with the IMR after two conferences organised there (one-day and graduate). Thanks were given to CL and TWg for organising graduate conference and to SC for one-day conference.

CB reported much ethnomusicology and popular music content at the RMA in Manchester this year which had MS as keynote speaker. Also congratulated MS for the RMA Dent Medal and the conference that will be held in his honour in September.

CB attended the annual ICTM conference in Ireland in February 2011 and discussed the possibility of a joint conference with the organisation in the future. CB also noted the strengthening of links with the SEM and the tea party RHT organised representing BFE. RHT has volunteered to organise a similar event at the 2011 SEM conference and CB encouraged anyone planning to attend SEM to contact RHT if they are interested in helping out.

CB has taken part in consultation exercises on behalf of BFE, and has collaborated with NAMHE and other organisations representing music. CB and other committee members have also attended consultation and briefing days organised by the AHRC and HEFCE. CB stated that BFE submitted nominations for the Music, Drama, Dance and Performing Arts sub panel for the REF and Martin Clayton has been reappointed to represent ethnomusicology.

CB discussed the changes made in the editorial team for Ethnomusicology Forum. SK was recruited as a co-editor last year, and TW is about to take the second position as co-editor as LN steps down. Eleni Kallimopoulou has been appointed to take over as reviews editor. CB also welcomed the new administrative assistant EA and editorial assistant Emma Gallon.

Thanks were given to SK and EA for the new e-mail list, and CB encouraged members to sign up. BFE also have a new sophisticated website package which will be developed further. CB noted the importance of online presence and discussed possibility of facebook, twitter and other social media. Other possibilities of promoting BFE at WOMAD and in Songlines were mentioned.

CB congratulated Stephanie Conn for being awarded the student price last year. The 2011 student price is now open; please send a copy of the nominated paper to EA.

5. Officers' reports

a. Treasurer

SC circulated and explained figures from 2010 and noted that income has been almost identical in 2009 and 2010. He was delighted to inform the AGM that the BFE currently holds approximately £32,000 in its account.

Thanks were given to MS for Oxford conference generating £2000 in income for BFE. This was used to support the Falmouth conference.

SC informed that student bursaries had been given both at the Oxford conference and at the Falmouth conference. He informed that the committee had taken the decision to increase support to Chair due to increasing demands to attend conferences etc.

SC suggested that a reserve account should be set up to reduce the risk that comes from having all funds in the same place. This account should be co-signed by two committee members.

b. Membership liaison

SK reported a continuing rise in membership numbers, especially student membership which has doubled in the last three years. Overseas- and institutional subscriptions are also rising, and with the increase to 3 journal issues/year members are offered a better deal.

SK reported some issues with the automated billing system of Taylor & Francis as some members have received repeat invoices. If any issues, members are advised to contact the committee.

c. Journal editors

Thanks were given to Andrew Killick for his work as a co-editor before SK took over his position last year. LN is stepping down as co-editor this year and TW will replace her. Eleni Kallimopoulou has been appointed reviews editor to replace HST, and Emma Gallon has been recruited as editorial assistant.

LN reported a steady rise in submissions to the journal as well as dramatic increase in full text downloads from Routledge online, from ca: 5000 in 2008 to ca: 11000 in 2010.

The first issue of the 20th volume is due out soon. SC thanked LN, SK and HST for all their work.

d. Website development

SK reported that the new e-mail list is up and running and EA has been instrumental in establishing the list. The e-news page is now updated bi-monthly rather than every month, and an invitation to forward any info for this to EA was made.

SK explained that the new website package allowed to stream video and audio content. Aim to make the website more interactive; if anyone has ideas contact committee.

e. Student representative

TWg reported success from graduate conference with a high attendance. Thanks were given to CL and Emma Brinkhurst.

2012 graduate conference will have the theme 'Music on the move' and Michael Ball will be keynote. Aim to increase use of social media in order to build up a stronger relationship with student body. A field trip is planned to France.

6. Committee membership and elections

CB explained many changes in the committee. SC, DW, SK, MS terms as elected members, and AI, TW, HST terms as co-opted members of the committee are ending. CB's term as chair is ending and she is stepping down from the committee. SK and TW are standing for re-election. LN, KS, RHT and TWg are continuing.

CB explained to members that committee needs 8 elected members and up to 4 co-opted members, and mentioned other ways to get involved such as sub-groups etc. CB also explained that committee meets 4 times a year and other business is done over email.

Prior to this conference an advanced call for nominations was made but constitution states that members are allowed to nominate from the floor at AGM. 5 places were available for election at this meeting, whereby SK, TW, SM, and CL had submitted written self-nominations, and nominations were invited from the floor. CD and AV made verbal statements. Some committee members conferred on stage. CB voiced committee's proposal that SK be co-opted, which allowed for all other nominated members to be elected. This was agreed on by AGM.

7. Amendments to constitution

Issue about election process was raised, with discussion as to whether it should become more formalised as it is problematic to prepare for election when members can nominate at the AGM. It was also noted that some members find the existing arrangement uncomfortable. It was proposed that rule #7 was amended to include: "A call for nominations will be issued approximately one month prior to the conference and nominations will be accepted up to 24 hours before the time set for the meeting. Nominated candidates should prepare a short written statement and nominations should include the names of proposer and seconder." This was accepted.

CB suggested change to rule #8, from "newsletter editor" to "news editor". This was agreed.

8. Future Conferences

SM introduced the next BFE annual conference that will be held in Durham 29 March-1 April 2012. The theme will be "Performance Interactions". Call for papers will be sent out in June 2011, deadline September 2011.

AI is organising the one-day conference at IMR or SOAS. Possible theme is "Ecomusicology".

Other upcoming conferences are SEM in November 2011 and ICTM in July 2011. BFE will aim to have a presence at both with leaflets.

9. Other Projects

Noting was raised.

10. AOB

It was suggested, and agreed, that BFE will aim to have a box and a notice board for people's nominations at the next conference so that members have time to familiarise themselves with candidates prior to the AGM.

Thanks were given to CB from MS on behalf of all members for her time as chair. CB gave thanks to TW for organising Falmouth conference and to all committee members.

11. Date of next AGM

To be held during the Durham conference, April 2012.